

REMARKS

This responds to the Office Action mailed on November 17, 2006.

Claims 1, 14 and 25 are amended, no claims are canceled or added in this response; as a result, claims 1-37 remain pending in this application. The amendments to claims 1 and 25 provide further clarification of the traveler data. Claim 14 has been amended to correct minor typographical errors. The amendments to claims 1, 14 and 25 are not in response to any art based rejection.

§112 Rejection of the Claims

Claims 1, 14 and 25 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, for indefiniteness. In particular, with respect to claims 1 and 25 the Office Action stated that it was 'unclear to the Examiner if the retrieved travel data is the "traveler information" for inserting into a traveler database (lines 2-3 of claim 1) or if the retrieved traveler data is referring to some other new data.' Applicant has amended claims 1 and 25 to clarify that the traveler data includes at least a portion of the traveler information.

With respect to claim 14, the Office Action correctly noted that the term "first subset of the plurality of travelers" lacked antecedent basis. Applicant has amended claim 14 to remove the extraneous "first." The amendment is believed to result in correct antecedent basis for the term "subset of the plurality of travelers."

In view of the above, Applicant respectfully submits that the claims are not indefinite, and requests reconsideration and the withdrawal of the rejection of claims 1, 14 and 25.

§103 Rejection of the Claims

Claims 1-3, 5-10, 13-15, 18-23, 24-27, 29-34 and 37 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Flake et al. (US 5,832,451) in view of Schiff et al. (US 2002/0022977).

Claims 4 and 28 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Flake et al. in view of Schiff et al. as applied to claim 1 above, and further in view of Bull et al. (US 5,995,943).

Claims 11 and 36 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Flake et al. in view of Schiff et al. as applied to claim 1 above, and further in view of Iyengar et al. (US 6,360,205).

Claims 12 and 36 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Flake et al. in view of Schiff et al. as applied to claim 1 above, and further in view of Harris et al. (US 2002/0108109).

Claims 16 and 17 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Flake et al. in view of Schiff et al. as applied to claim 1 above, and further in view of Lynch et al. (US 6,119,094).

Each of the rejections above relies on Schiff. A declaration under 37 CFR §1.131 is submitted with this response which establishes that Applicants invented the inventive subject matter prior to the June 20, 2001 filing date of Schiff. In view of the declaration, Applicants respectfully submit that the rejections have been overcome and should be withdrawn, and that claims 1-37 are allowable. Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and the withdrawal of the rejection of claims 1-37.

CONCLUSION

Applicant respectfully submits that the claims are in condition for allowance, and notification to that effect is earnestly requested. The Examiner is invited to telephone Applicant's attorney at (612) 373-6954 to facilitate prosecution of this application.

If necessary, please charge any additional fees or credit overpayment to Deposit Account No. 19-0743.

Reservation of Rights

In the interest of clarity and brevity, Applicant may not have addressed every assertion made in the Office Action. Applicant's silence regarding any such assertion does not constitute any admission or acquiescence. Applicant reserves all rights not exercised in connection with this response, such as the right to challenge or rebut any tacit or explicit characterization of any reference or of any of the present claims, the right to challenge or rebut any asserted factual or legal basis of any of the rejections, the right to swear behind any cited reference such as provided

under 37 C.F.R. § 1.131 or otherwise, or the right to assert co-ownership of any cited reference. Applicant does not admit that any of the cited references or any other references of record are relevant to the present claims, or that they constitute prior art. To the extent that any rejection or assertion is based upon the Examiner's personal knowledge, rather than any objective evidence of record as manifested by a cited prior art reference, Applicant timely objects to such reliance on Official Notice, and reserves all rights to request that the Examiner provide a reference or affidavit in support of such assertion, as required by MPEP § 2144.03. Applicant reserves all rights to pursue any cancelled claims in a subsequent patent application claiming the benefit of priority of the present patent application, and to request rejoinder of any withdrawn claim, as required by MPEP § 821.04.

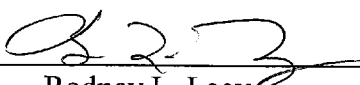
Respectfully submitted,

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By their Representatives,

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Date March 23, 2007

By 
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CERTIFICATE UNDER 37 CFR 1.8: The undersigned hereby certifies that this correspondence is being filed using the USPTO's electronic filing system EFS-Web, and is addressed to: Mail Stop Amendment, Commissioner of Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on this 23 day of March 2007.

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Name


Signature